

Message Text

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51

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 EB-11 PC-15 USIE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6889

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 1702

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: BAG PREPARATION FOR BELGIAN GRAIN AIRDROP - CHAD

REF: (A) FORT LAMY 1320; (B) BRUSSELS 4702;

(C) OUAGA 1540

1. RE PARA (2) REF A, STRONGLY RECOMMEND PURCHASE TWO OR THREE FISCHBEIN/BAG STITCHING MACHINES. SEWING BY HAND IS TOO SLOW; WITHOUT MACHINES YOU WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP UP WITH QUANTITY SACKS NEEDED FOR FREE-FALL AIRDROP BY BELGIANS.

2. SUGGEST YOU GET VERY AMPLE SUPPLY THREAD BECAUSE COST IS MODEST, AND YOUR OPERATION MAY GO ON LONGER THAN ORIGINALLY EXPECTED. REF (B) ENVISAGES STRING FOR 12,000 BAGS, WHICH IS ONLY ENOUGH FOR TWO HUNDRED TONS. BELGIAN C-130 DROPPED THIS AMOUNT FREE-FALL IN TEN DAYS HERE. SUGGEST YOU TRIPLE AMOUNT THREAD TO COVER ANY POSSIBLE FUTURE OPERATIONS.

3. PRESENTLY IN OUAGA WE HAVE ONLY TWO MACHINES, WHICH ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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NEEDED FOR PRESENT FRENCH AIRDROP AND ANTICIPATED BELGIAN

AIRDROP OPERATIONS. SORRY, NONE AVAILABLE FOR LOAN TO FT LAMY.

4. SOME OF OUR AIRDROP EXPERIENCE SUMMARIZED IN REF (C).

FURTHER TESTS AND EXPERIENCE HAVE CONFIRMED NEED USE THREE
OVERSIZE JUTE SACKS, PREFERABLY NEW ONES. TRUST YOU HAVE AMPLE
SUPPLY SACKS; THIS TYPE OPERATION IS VERY VORACIOUS FOR SACKS.

5. STRONGLY RECOMMEND YOU FABRICATE THREE STEEL CHUTES FOR
LOADING SACKS. SUITABLE CHUTE CAN BE MADE FROM PIECE OF
METAL ROOFING SUPPORTED BY STEEL LEGS. ROOFING SHOULD BE
CURVED ROUGHLY TO SHAPE OF SACK AND MOUNTED IN INCLINED
POSITION SEVERAL FEET OFF FLOOR. THEN WORKERS CAN RAISE BAG
OF GRAIN ONTO CHUTE AND LET IT SLIDE DOWN INTO EMPTY BAG HELD
AT BOTTOM OF CHUTE.

6. PCV THOMAS BROWN FROM UPPER VOLTA, EXPERT FROM OUR
SACKING OPERATION, HAS BEEN IN NIAMEY HELPING SET UP SACKING
OPERATION THERE. IF BELGIAN PLANE FLYS TO FORT LAMY VIA
NIAMEY, IT COULD PICK UP BORWN AND ONE STEEL CHUTE TO
HELP GET FORT LAMY OPERATION STARTED. EMBASSY/FORT LAMY WOULD
HAVE TO COVER HIS PER DIEM AND COMMERCIAL RETURN FARE TO
NIAMEY. ADVISE NIAMEY AND OUAGA.EASUM

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